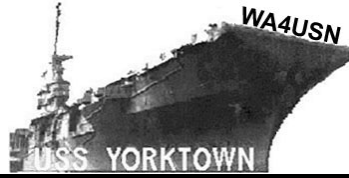


CARS



CARRIER



Charleston Amateur Radio Society

May 2007 Newsletter



CARS Web Site --- <http://www.wa4usn.org>

*The CARS club meets the second Monday of each month at Ryan's Steak House on Highway 61.
The next club meeting will be held at 7:30 PM on Monday, May 14, 2007*

FROM THE PRESIDENT

I've written a lot about the public service aspects of amateur radio in the past. Taking on important roles visible to the public is an important aspect of maintaining the relevancy of our hobby in a world where the Internet is accessible in so many places, and where cell phones sprout like weeds from every ear – even in elementary schools. Yet once in a while, we need to step back from all the “work” associated with the hobby, and just enjoy the people for a change. After all, without someone else to talk to, amateur radio would be no different than... well... a “broadcast”.

All this came home to me as Tracey and I made the trip this past Saturday to Bryce and Jenny's “river house” for the Hamfest helper party. It's always a great get together, with a lot of good food, good conversation, and good fellowship. It's the fellowship part that perhaps we tend to miss when we are talking about the concerns of the day. Whether the new license rules are decreasing the intellectual rigor of amateur radio or not, in my mind, it is certainly not dulling the character of the folks carrying on the hobby.

So when asked about the merits of license restructuring, and the removal of the Morse code requirement, I have to look at the issue pragmatically. We have an incredible influx of new Hams with the advent of a new licensing structure. So much so that ARRL has a staff of seven full-time and three part-time employees to handle the influx of new license requests resulting from VE sessions across the country. Some of this crop of Hams is transitioning from Family Radio or Citizen's Band frequencies. Some are pursuing an interest that seemed

unattainable while the “code” stood as a barrier. Some are seeing value in basic communication skills in light of the many natural disasters of the last few years. Whatever the reason, they are coming.

So, we have a choice. Accept that the hobby is changing, and help educate these new Hams, or don't accept them. But I would ask that we consider that, while a lot of people ask why such an old fashion way of communicating is needed, every Ham knows the need for amateur radio, and can be a vital part of the defense of the hobby. And we also share the kinship of having a common appreciation for the marvel of communicating over the airwaves. From my own personal experience, we are much better off accepting change, and jumping in to help share our knowledge and skill.

Please join me at our next club meeting at Ryan's Steak House on May 14th to find out more about how you can get involved – both new and experienced Hams alike – in the many events coming up just around the corner.

73, Ken (AF4ZV)

K4DMS Signs Off for the Year

K4DMS had its last meeting for the 2006-2007 school year on May 1st. By all accountings the year was quite successful. We participated in both the fall and spring school club roundups. We have at least five students who will be returning next year to continue with the club. Everyone has enjoyed the opportunities to try new types of radio communication and to learn about amateur radio in general. We have had fun communicating with hams in our back yard and around the world. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the club for all of its support –

emotionally, physically and financially. I would also like to thank the following individuals for all their support: Bryce Myers, Doc Crane, Sheila Frank, Jenny Myers, Charles King, Tom Rader, Joe Schmitt, Harold Moon, Tommy Billings, Ken Bible and especially Ed Steeble – I could not have run this club without friends like you.

Thank You, Alene

APRIL FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Beginning Cash - 4/1/07	\$1,724.93
Cash Receipts:	
April Raffle	41.00
Jenny Myers	150.00
Cash Disbursements:	
John Meyers - April Newsletter	(39.43)
G. Gilbert -Dues Refund (Excessive)	(5.00)
Post Office Box rental	(50.00)
Pinckney-Carter Insurance	(250.00)
Bryce Myers -Equip. for HEARTS	(48.00)
Bryce Myers - Copies & club drinks	(35.89)
Bell South - April	<u>(36.91)</u>
Ending Cash - 4/30/07	\$1,450.70
Savings HT	\$ 26.93
Savings ST - CD	\$1,306.45

Linda NeSmith - K4MPY

MINUTES of APRIL MEETING

Charleston Amateur Radio Society

Club Meeting at Ryan's Steak House on Hwy. 61
Monday, April 9, 2007 - 7:30 PM

MINUTES:

The Charleston Amateur Radio Society Meeting was called to order by President, Ken Bible, AF4ZV, at 7:35 PM on April 9, 2007 at Ryan's Steak House, in Charleston.

Introductions:

There were 30 members and 14 guests present.

Secretary's Minutes/ Report: Tracey KG4HTW

In a motion by Bryce K4LXF, and second by David KI4FSC, the March 2007 meeting minutes were approved as published in the April 2007 CARS Carrier.

Treasurer's Report: Linda K4MPY

The March 2007 Treasurer's report was accepted as presented at the meeting.

MARCH FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Beginning Cash - 3/1/07	\$1,518.94
Cash Receipts:	
March Raffle	31.00
Jenny Myers	300.00
Cash Disbursements:	
John Meyers - March Newsletter	(39.17)
Jenny Myers - Office Supplies	(9.85)
ARRL - Dennis Powell - Raffle	(39.00)
Bell South - March	<u>(36.99)</u>
Ending Cash - 3/31/07	\$1,724.93
Savings HT	\$ 26.93
Savings ST - CD	\$1,306.45

Linda NeSmith - K4MPY

Hamfest Report: Jenny WA4NGV

Jenny reported that a Hamfest Committee meeting was held and there was a unanimous vote to have a 2008 Hamfest. A motion will be brought under new business. This was a successful year and we hope to continue. The annual helper party will be on April 28th at the Orangeburg river house. Lunch will be served around 2pm. Please call Sheila KT4YW by April 20th to make reservations – also please refer to the March newsletter for directions.

Field Day: Doc W4MUR

All new hams are invited to participate in the upcoming 2007 Field Day event. Doc noted that a volunteer sign-up sheet was being circulated at the meeting. This event is a great way to test operating skills and will take place on the USS Yorktown at Patriots Point. Volunteers are also needed for setup & tear-down. Setup can start at 2pm on Friday, June 22nd. The event runs June 23rd – June 24th; with tear-down immediately following the event close. Ken AF4ZV agreed to ride the bike again and Jenny WA4NGV & Sonja WA4WVD agreed to coordinate the meals. Bill WA4WGP agreed to coordinate the GOTA station.

Museum Ships: David KI4FSC

David reminded club members of the following upcoming events:

1) "Subs on the Air" is scheduled for April 28th and operations will take place on the USS Clamagore.

2) "Museum Ships on the Air" is scheduled for June 8th – June 10th with operations on the USS Yorktown.

Ed KQ4DC reported on a special event marking the anniversary of the April Kamikaze attack that earned the Laffey the nickname of "The ship that would not die." The event will be held on April 16th from 9AM to 4PM aboard the USS Laffey.

Races: Ken AF4ZV

CRBR : Doug extended thanks to all 38 volunteers who participated and noted that Net Control was great. This year, Doug kept a log on all the events that occurred on event day to assist with planning for next year. Brief discussion was held about medical assistance for a runner and wheel chair speeds. In addition, a letter was received from Mary Ellen Lenhardt [Assistant Race Director] thanking CARS for its support and inviting all volunteers to the annual volunteer party at James Island County Park [Edisto Shelter] on April 10th from 6-8pm.

After the Bridge Run Ride: Ken AF4ZV thanked everyone who participated in supporting this annual event, which occurs the day after the Bridge Run. There were 450 cyclists and it was a successful event.

Gift of Life 5K: Mike WA4HVP will be coordinating this event coming up on April 14th at Wannamaker County Park. Please contact Mike to participate.

MS Walk: Ken noted that volunteers and a Net Control operator are still needed for this event, which is scheduled for Saturday April 21st at Brittlebank Park. Contact Ken for more information.

Emergency Prep: Bill WA4WGP, Charleston; John W4HNK, Dorchester; Vince KI4AOC, Berkeley

Charleston: No new information at this point. Expect activity to increase as we head into hurricane season.

Dorchester: On June 6th, there will be an Earth Quake drill. The next EOC meeting will be this Saturday, April 14th at 9am at the Sheriff's complex on Hwy 78.

Berkeley: At the new EOC offices, volunteers have been busy installing equipment.

Repeater Report: Bryce K4LXF

No issues to report this month. The Seabrook repeater is back online and work continues with the HEARTS network.

NETS: Linda K4MPY - Newcomers Net; Susannah KE4RVF - ARES Net

Linda made a note of the "Newcomers Net" which starts at 8PM each Thursday and is a good opportunity for new hams to get on the air and have a chance to sign-up for Net Control operator..

It was noted that this year marks the 49th Anniversary of the SC Single Sideband net, which meets nightly at 7pm local time on 3915 kHz.

Interference: Bryce K4LXF

No new information to report.

Newsletter/CARS Carrier/Website: John WA4GPS
Ken AF4ZV thanked John for his work on the website and newsletter, noting that the website [www.wa4usn.org] has many useful links and is a good source of information.

Education and VE Testing: Ken AF4ZV for Sheila KT4YW and Linda K4MPY

The next ARRL VE session will be this coming Saturday, April 14th at 9AM at Trident Hospital.

School Programs: Alene KG4NKD – DuBose Middle School Radio Club – K4DMS

Alene reported that she anticipates two to three students seeking to take their test to become licensed hams during a special session on the last Tuesday in April. Also, the school club is always looking for speakers to talk to students at the regular club meetings. Contact Alene to find out more information.

Membership: Bryce K4LXF

The following applications for membership were read:

Regular Membership:

1st Reading: Eugene Danielson, KI4RRT
Max Willis, KI4RRY
Gregory Gilbert, KI4UIY
Joe House, KI4UIU
James Gilbert, KI4UIS

2nd Reading: Jerry Rudes, W8KDK
Clyde Anderson, KB4NNM
Hector Melendez, KI4UIR
George Kerr, KI4UIV
Carl Thorne, KD8FNJ
Margaret Thorne, KD8FNK

Associate Membership: None

In a motion by JJ, K4BZH, seconded by John WA4GPS, all six "2nd Reading" applicants were approved for Regular membership with the CARS club.

Old Business: None.

New Business:

2008 Hamfest: The Hamfest Committee makes a motion to have a Hamfest in the year 2008, and that a new committee be formed, with the authority to use the Hamfest funds. Motion carried.

Butter Nut Antenna: In a motion by Bryce K4LXF and seconded by JJ K4BZH, the club approved the appropriation of \$400 to purchase a new antenna for the Yorktown from HRO.

Announcements: None

Drawing: The drawing for a one-year ARRL membership was won by Terry Fox WB4JFI.

A motion to adjourn was made by Bill WA4WGP, and seconded by JJ K4BZH.

Meeting adjourned at 8:35 PM.

Respectfully submitted by Tracey, KG4HTW.

CARS CARRIER

Charleston Amateur Radio Society

423 Beaufort Rd., Summerville, SC 29483-1989

